# Engage Squared - Security Readiness Playbook

This playbook helps E2 consultants and customers build practical security capability beyond data audits.  
It combines Microsoft “Ninja” trainings with E2’s delivery modules so teams can learn, assess, and execute.

## How to Use This Playbook

1. **Build common understanding**  
   Run the **Security Foundations** session to align language and principles.
2. **Assess current posture**  
   Run a **Security Architecture Review** to understand where the customer is today.
3. **Plan the uplift**  
   Facilitate a **Security Roadmap Workshop** to set priorities and a Crawl–Walk–Run plan.
4. **Skill up while you deliver**  
   Use the Ninja trainings below to upskill delivery teams and customers in parallel.  
   Then progress into specialised engagements such as **Sensitivity Labelling** and **Basic DLP Advisory**.

## How to Apply the Training Content

This playbook is not just a list of links - it is a guide for building capability in a structured way.  
Use it differently depending on the audience:

* **Internal staff readiness**: Start with Ninja modules before your first customer delivery.
* **Onboarding customers**: Recommend foundational Ninja modules as preparatory learning.
* **Delivery support**: Use these as enrichment alongside E2 modules like DLP Advisory or Sensitivity Labelling.
* **Skill enablement**: Institutions and partners benefit by aligning real training pathways to delivery services.

## At a Glance: Training Readiness by Delivery

Use this as a quick reference to determine the minimum skilling needed before delivering each E2 module.  
“Nice to Have” items are optional, but they provide extra confidence and depth.

| E2 Delivery | Minimum Training | Nice to Have |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Security Foundations** | [NIST Online Cybersecurity Learning](https://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/resources/online-learning-content), [CSA Cloud Security Fundamentals](https://cloudsecurityalliance.org/education/ccsk) | [Compliance Manager Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/microsoft-compliance-manager-mscm-ninja-training-q1-2022/ba-p/3181322) |
| **Security Architecture Review** | [Defender for Endpoint Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-for-endpoint/become-a-microsoft-defender-for-endpoint-ninja/ba-p/1515647), [Sentinel Ninja – Level 400](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-sentinel-blog/become-a-microsoft-sentinel-ninja-the-complete-level-400/ba-p/1246310) | [Threat Intelligence Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-threat/become-a-microsoft-defender-threat-intelligence-ninja-the/ba-p/3656965), [EASM Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-external/become-a-microsoft-defender-external-attack-surface-management/ba-p/3743985) |
| **Security Roadmap Workshop** | [Purview Information Protection Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/the-microsoft-information-protection-mip-ninja-training-is-here/ba-p/2887478), [Purview DLP Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/the-microsoft-purview-data-loss-prevention-ninja-training-is/ba-p/3659015) | [Insider Risk Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-an-insider-risk-management-ninja/ba-p/3282306), [Communication Compliance Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-communication-compliance-ninja/ba-p/3283283) |
| **Sensitivity Labelling Uplift** | [Purview Information Protection Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/the-microsoft-information-protection-mip-ninja-training-is-here/ba-p/2887478) | [eDiscovery Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-microsoft-purview-ediscovery-ninja/ba-p/2793108), [Records Management Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-microsoft-purview-data-lifecycle-and-records-management/ba-p/3874829) |
| **Basic DLP Advisory** | [Purview DLP Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/the-microsoft-purview-data-loss-prevention-ninja-training-is/ba-p/3659015), [Defender for Cloud Apps Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/microsoft-defender-for-cloud-apps-ninja-training-june-2022/ba-p/3050791) | [Insider Risk Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-an-insider-risk-management-ninja/ba-p/3282306), [Priva Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-microsoft-priva-ninja/ba-p/3876888) |

## Readiness Tracks and Training Links

Below are curated Microsoft “Ninja” trainings organised into logical tracks.  
These are the official deep-dives used across the industry for hands-on capability building.

## Microsoft “Ninja” Training Modules

These are Microsoft’s deep-dive, role-focused skilling paths. They’re ideal for consultants building technical capability, or for customers who want to develop internal expertise while adopting Microsoft Security solutions.

| Track | Resource | Description |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Copilot & Exposure Management** | [Microsoft Security Copilot Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-security-copilot-blog/how-to-become-a-microsoft-copilot-for-security-ninja-the/ba-p/4106928) | Introductory to advanced content for Copilot for Security. |
|  | [Defender Experts Ninja Hub](https://aka.ms/DefenderExpertsNinjaHub) | Training path for Microsoft Defender Experts. |
|  | [Defender Vulnerability Management Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-vulnerability/become-a-microsoft-defender-vulnerability-management-ninja/ba-p/4003011) | Vulnerability management strategies and labs. |
|  | [Defender External Attack Surface Management (EASM) Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-external/become-a-microsoft-defender-external-attack-surface-management/ba-p/3743985) | Discovering and protecting your external attack surface. |
| **SOC, XDR & Hunting** | [Unified SOC Platform Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-sentinel-blog/become-a-microsoft-unified-soc-platform-ninja/ba-p/4014565) | SOC integration across Microsoft 365 Defender and Sentinel. |
|  | [Microsoft 365 Defender Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-365-defender-blog/become-a-microsoft-365-defender-ninja/ba-p/1789376) | Comprehensive XDR capabilities in Microsoft 365 Defender. |
|  | [Defender for Endpoint Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-for-endpoint/become-a-microsoft-defender-for-endpoint-ninja/ba-p/1515647) | Endpoint detection, response, and protection. |
|  | [Defender for Identity Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/microsoft-defender-for-identity-ninja-training/ba-p/2117904) | Protect and monitor Active Directory identity systems. |
|  | [Defender for Office 365 Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-for-office/become-a-microsoft-defender-for-office-365-ninja-june-2022/ba-p/2187392) | Email and collaboration security. |
|  | [Sentinel Ninja – Level 400](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-sentinel-blog/become-a-microsoft-sentinel-ninja-the-complete-level-400/ba-p/1246310) | Advanced content for Microsoft Sentinel. |
|  | [Sentinel Notebooks Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-sentinel-blog/becoming-a-microsoft-sentinel-notebooks-ninja-the-series/ba-p/2693491) | Jupyter notebooks for hunting and automation. |
|  | [Sentinel Automation Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-sentinel-blog/become-a-microsoft-sentinel-automation-ninja/ba-p/3563377) | SOAR capabilities with Sentinel. |
|  | [Must Learn KQL](https://aka.ms/MustLearnKQL) | Query language fundamentals for Defender and Sentinel. |
| **Cloud & Infrastructure Security** | [Defender for Cloud Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-for-cloud/become-a-microsoft-defender-for-cloud-ninja/ba-p/1608761) | Securing Azure and hybrid workloads. |
|  | [Azure Network Security Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-network-security-blog/azure-network-security-ninja-training/ba-p/2356101) | Network segmentation, firewalls, and Azure protections. |
|  | [Defender for IoT Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-for-iot-blog/microsoft-defender-for-iot-ninja-training/ba-p/2428899) | OT and IoT device protection. |
|  | [Defender Threat Intelligence Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/microsoft-defender-threat/become-a-microsoft-defender-threat-intelligence-ninja-the/ba-p/3656965) | Threat intelligence gathering and enrichment. |
| **Information Protection, Compliance & Privacy** | [Purview Information Protection Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/the-microsoft-information-protection-mip-ninja-training-is-here/ba-p/2887478) | Classification and labelling fundamentals. |
|  | [Purview Data Loss Prevention (DLP) Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/the-microsoft-purview-data-loss-prevention-ninja-training-is/ba-p/3659015) | DLP policy design and enforcement. |
|  | [Purview Data Lifecycle & Records Mgmt Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-microsoft-purview-data-lifecycle-and-records-management/ba-p/3874829) | Records and retention in Microsoft 365. |
|  | [Purview eDiscovery Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-microsoft-purview-ediscovery-ninja/ba-p/2793108) | Discovery, review, and export of data. |
|  | [Compliance Manager Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/microsoft-compliance-manager-mscm-ninja-training-q1-2022/ba-p/3181322) | Compliance score and regulatory mappings. |
|  | [Communication Compliance Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-communication-compliance-ninja/ba-p/3283283) | Policy design for inappropriate communications. |
|  | [Insider Risk Management Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-an-insider-risk-management-ninja/ba-p/3282306) | Insider risk detection and response. |
|  | [Microsoft Priva Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/become-a-microsoft-priva-ninja/ba-p/3876888) | Privacy-respecting data handling. |
|  | [Defender for Cloud Apps Ninja](https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/security-compliance-and-identity/microsoft-defender-for-cloud-apps-ninja-training-june-2022/ba-p/3050791) | Cloud app governance and session controls. |

## Vendor-Agnostic Capability Tracks

Beyond product-specific “Ninja” training, these resources build security breadth and architectural discipline across any technology stack:

| Track | Resource | Description |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cloud & Architecture Foundations** | [CSA – Cloud Security Training & CCSK](https://cloudsecurityalliance.org/education/ccsk) | Vendor-neutral cloud security frameworks and certification. |
|  | [NIST – Online Cybersecurity Learning](https://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/resources/online-learning-content) | Educational assets aligned to NICE — perfect for grounding roles. |
|  | [TechRadar Course Roundup](https://www.techradar.com/best/best-online-cyber-security-courses) | A curated mix of free and low-cost cybersecurity courses across platforms. |
| **Security Awareness & Role-Based Training** | [Infosec Skills & SecurityIQ](https://www.infosecinstitute.com/skills/) | Phishing, SOC roles, executive awareness. |
| **Technical Skills & Certifications** | [Fortinet NSE Self-Paced](https://www.fortinet.com/uk/training/cybersecurity-professionals) | Training aligned to secure network and cloud operations. |
|  | [SANS Institute](https://www.sans.org/au_en) | Deep, hands-on vendor-neutral security topics. |

## Defender XDR Deployment Reference

**Ray Reyes — Microsoft Defender XDR Deployment Guide**  
A deployment playbook for Microsoft Defender XDR that outlines roles, permissions, and the logic of “why” to enable controls in a customer context. Great companion for architecture reviews or roadmap phases [:contentReferenceoaicite:30](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/ray-reyes-598062125_mastering-deployment-of-microsoft-defender-activity-7347876268115169280-tvRw/)